United Nations A/67/688

General Assembly

Distr.: General
8 January 2013
English
Original: Spanish

Sixty-seventh session
Agenda item 45
Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)

Letter dated 3 January 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith (see annex) a copy of the letter addressed by the President of the Argentine Republic, Ms. Cristina Fernández de Kirchner, to the British Prime Minister, Mr. David Cameron, on the occasion of the 180th anniversary of the illegitimate occupation of the Malvinas Islands by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on 3 January 1833.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 45, concerning the question of the Malvinas Islands.

(*Signed*) María Cristina **Perceval**
Ambassador

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Annex to the letter dated 3 January 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Buenos Aires, 3 January 2013

On this date, 3 January, 180 years ago, in a blatant exercise of nineteenth-century colonialism, Argentina was forcibly dispossessed of the Malvinas Islands, which are situated 14,000 km (8,700 miles) from London.

The Argentines on the Islands were expelled by the British Royal Navy and the United Kingdom subsequently began a process of importing settlers similar to that used in other territories under colonial rule.

Since then, the United Kingdom, the colonial Power, has refused to return the territories to the Argentine Republic, thus preventing it from restoring its territorial integrity.

The question of the Malvinas Islands is also a cause supported by Latin America and by the vast majority of the world's peoples and Governments, which reject colonialism.

In 1960, the United Nations proclaimed the necessity of bringing to an end everywhere colonialism in all its forms. In 1965, the General Assembly decided, with no votes against (not even by the United Kingdom), to consider the Malvinas Islands a case of colonialism and invited the two countries to negotiate a solution to the sovereignty dispute between them.

Many other resolutions followed in the same vein.

On behalf of the Argentine people, I reiterate our request that we give effect to the aforementioned resolutions of the United Nations.

(*Signed*) Cristina **Fernández de Kirchner**
President of the Argentine Republic